

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 26696 231042Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 231014Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO AMCONSULATE HONG KONG
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
SECSTATE WASHDC 5972

S E C R E T BANGKOK 26696

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR VN VS CH

SUBJECT: PRC AMBASSADOR TO HANOI ON VIETNAMESE SUPPORT FOR THAI
INSURGENCY

REF: HONG KONG 15010

1. WHILE IT WOULD BE COMFORTING TO BELIEVE THAT PRC IS PREPARED TO OPPOSE ANY VIETNAMESE MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THAILAND (REFTEL). WE WONDER IF THERE MAY BE CONFUSION IN REFTTEL BETWEEN FULL-SCALE VIETNAMESE INVASION OF THAILAND (PROBABLY UNLIKELY, AT LEAST FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS) AND CONTINUED, COVERT VIETNAMESE SUPPORT FOR THAI INSURGENCY. ONLY WAY WE CAN IMAGINE PRC OPPOSING VIETNAMESE SUPPORT FOR THAI INSURGENCY WOULD BE SOME FORM OF PRESSURE ON DRV BORDER WITH CHINA OR WITHHOLDING SUPPLIES FROM VIETNAM. LATTER SEEMS UNREWARDING COURSE OF ACTION, AS LOGICAL CONSEQUENCE WOULD BE TO DRIVE DRV FURTHER INTO ARMS OF MOSCOW.

2. WE DO NOT RPT NOT KNOW IF AMBASSADOR STEWART IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION IN HONG KONG, BUT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO KNOW IF PRC AMBASSADOR FU HAO WAS SPEAKING PRIMARILY IN TERMS OF VIETNAMESE SUPPORT FOR THE THAI INSURGENCY OR AN OPEN INVASION OF THAILAND BY THE

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DRV.

WHITEHOUSE

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